GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3284
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2005
SHRUBS ON CENTRAL VERGES ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS
Jha Shri Raghunath

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether shrubs have not been grown on the Central verges upto the height of 5 feet on National Highways such as N.H. No.1,2,8,24 etc. and wherever grown, the shrubs are scanty;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by when the shrubs are likely to be grown on N.Hs. ;and

(c) the amount spent by the Government in this regard during each of the last three years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS(SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a)&(b) As per the guidelines issued by the Ministry, provision of plantation of the shrubs in the medians must be made on all the National Highways where 4-laning or 6-laning is done. The height of the shrub should not exceed 1.5 metre and it should not be planted in the vicinity of road junctions and median openings as also in the locations where the median is tapered for a turning lane. Shrubs have been planted and maintained on various National Highways on a continuous basis in the central verges/medians having width more than 1.5 metre, including those sections of National Highways No. 1,2,8 and 24 where 4/6 laning has been completed. There is no central verge on two lane roads. In several places, due to local reasons and public interference, particularly in the built-up areas, shrubs have not grown to the required density.

(c) The plantation of shrubs is done as part of the 4/6 laning project, or the shrubs are planted out of maintenance funds in some cases. Since no separate estimate is generally being approved for the plantation and maintenance of shrubs, it is not possible to indicate the expenditure incurred exclusively thereon.